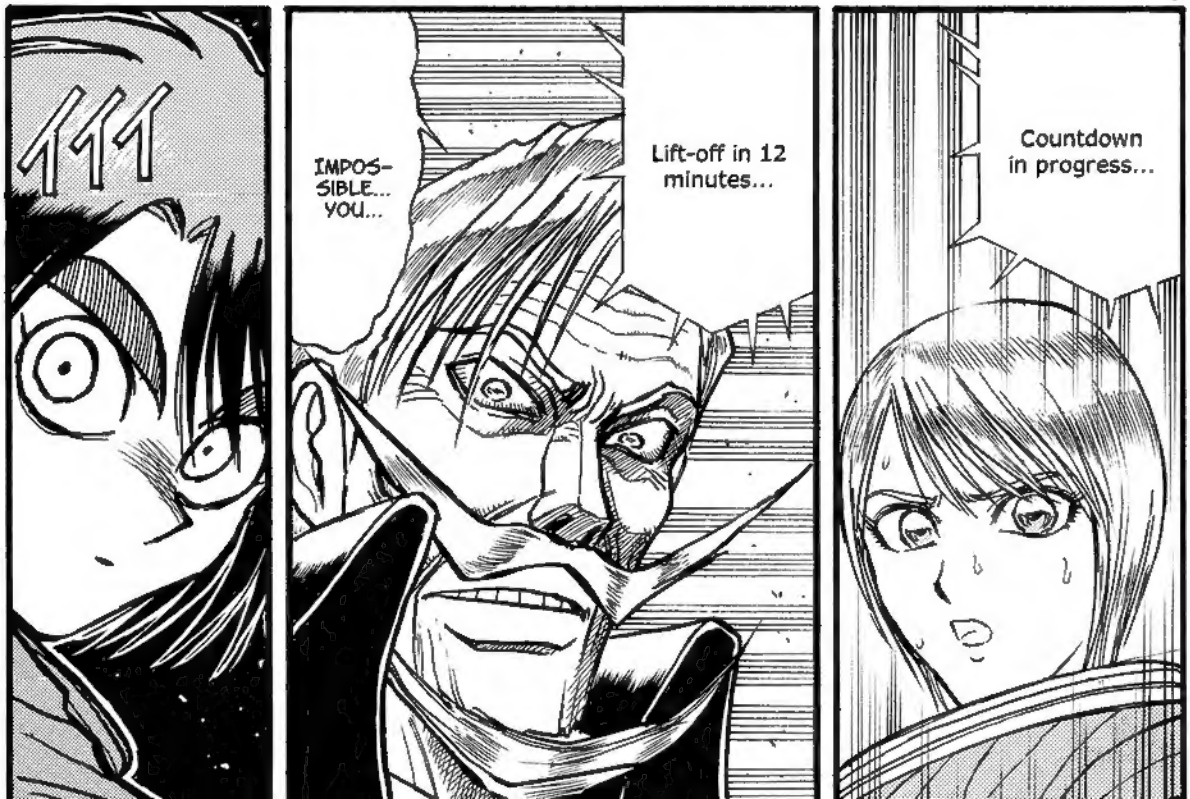
ACT-57 — COUNTDOWN: 12 MINUTES LEFT



WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MASARU?

3 2

THAT'S RIGHT, I CAME THROUGH THE DOWNLOAD DOOR. I'LL BE USING THIS ROOM NOW.

YEAH, THERE WERE LOTS OF ME...

BUT THEN YOU CAME IN AND KICKED THEM ALL OUT...

HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON STAYING?

THIS ROOM IS MINE NOW.

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SO YOU HAVE TO GET OUT, MASARU.
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GET OUT.
GET OUT.
GET OUT.
GET OUT.
4
GET OUT OF YOUR BRAIN, MASARU...

GET OUT.
GET OUT.
GET OUT.
GET OUT.
GET OUT.
GET OUT.
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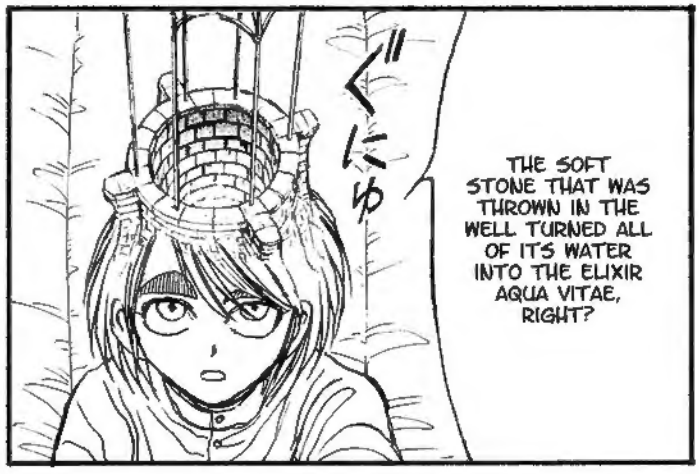
カリーン
I WONDER HOW MUCH WATER...
...WAS IN THE WELL...

HUH...? WHAT DID YOU SAY?
YOU KNOW... THE WELL THAT YIN-SAN THREW THE SOFT STONE INTO...
...TO SAVE THE PEOPLE OF KROGH VILLAGE FROM ZONAPHA SYNDROME.

HAH?! WHAT ARE YOU EVEN SAYING AT THIS POINT?

JUST HOW MUCH WATER WAS IN THERE?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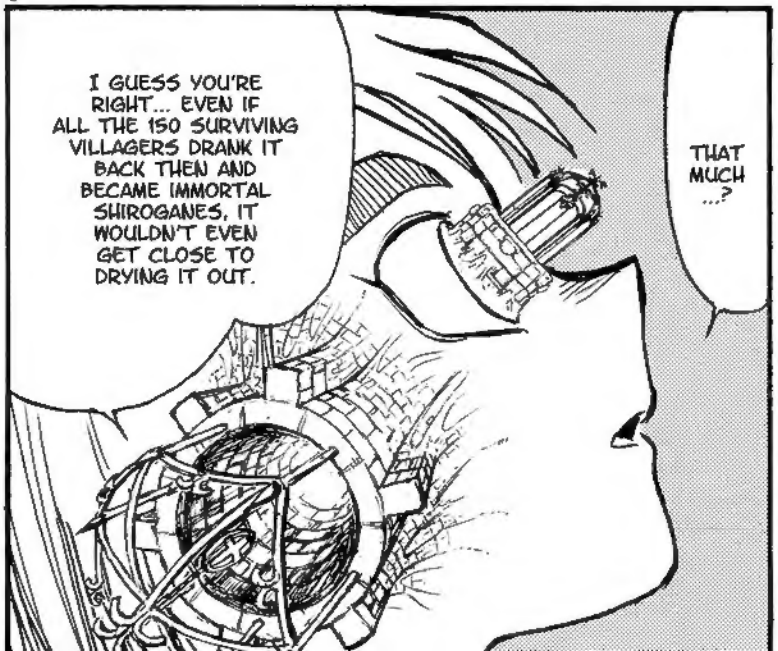
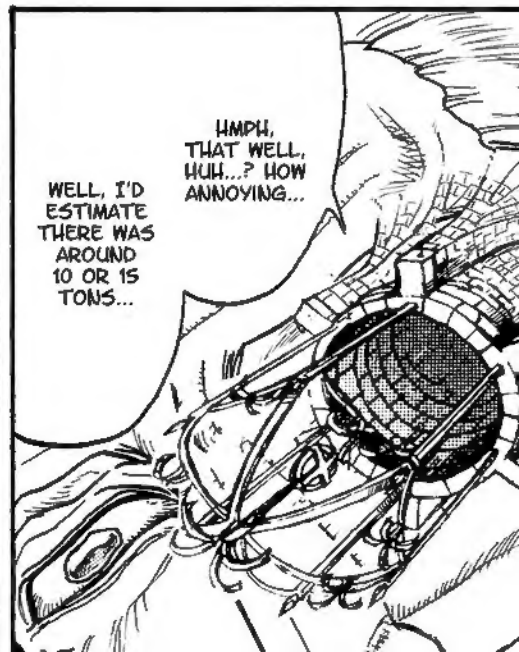
THE SOFT STONE THAT WAS THROWN IN THE WELL TURNED ALL OF IT'S WATER INTO THE ELIXIR AQUA VITAE, RIGHT?


I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT... EVEN IF ALL THE 150 SURVIVING VILLAGERS DRANK IT BACK THEN AND BECAME IMMORTAL SHIROGANES, IT WOULDN'T EVEN GET CLOSE TO DRYING IT OUT.
THAT MUCH ...?

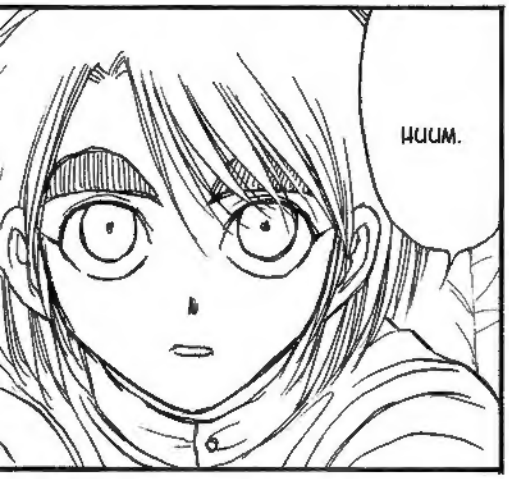

WELL, I'D ESTIMATE THERE WAS AROUND 10 OR 15 TONS...
HMPH, THAT WELL, HUH...? HOW ANNOYING...

MASARU, YOU ALREADY KNOW ALL THAT. SO WHY...
OKAY, THEN... WHY DOES AQUA VITAE MAKE THE DRINKER IMMORTAL?

OHHH? MASARU'S FADING CONSCIOUSNESS WANTS TO PLAY A QUIZ GAME WITH ME?
VERY WELL, I'LL PLAY ALONG...

LISTEN CAREFULLY, AQUA VITAE MAXIMIZES A HUMAN'S REGENERATIVE ABILITIES.

IT COMPLETELY RESTORES EVERY CELL IN THE HUMAN BODY TO THEIR HEALTHIEST STATE IN A MATTER OF SECONDS.
THAT'S WHAT AQUA VITAE IS: A HOMEOSTASIS ULTRA-ENHANCER.


HUUM.

ALRIGHT, ENOUGH QUESTIONS, MASARU.
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IF YOU WON'T LEAVE THIS ROOM...
...THEN MY CONSCIOUNESS WILL JUST EAT YOU UP.

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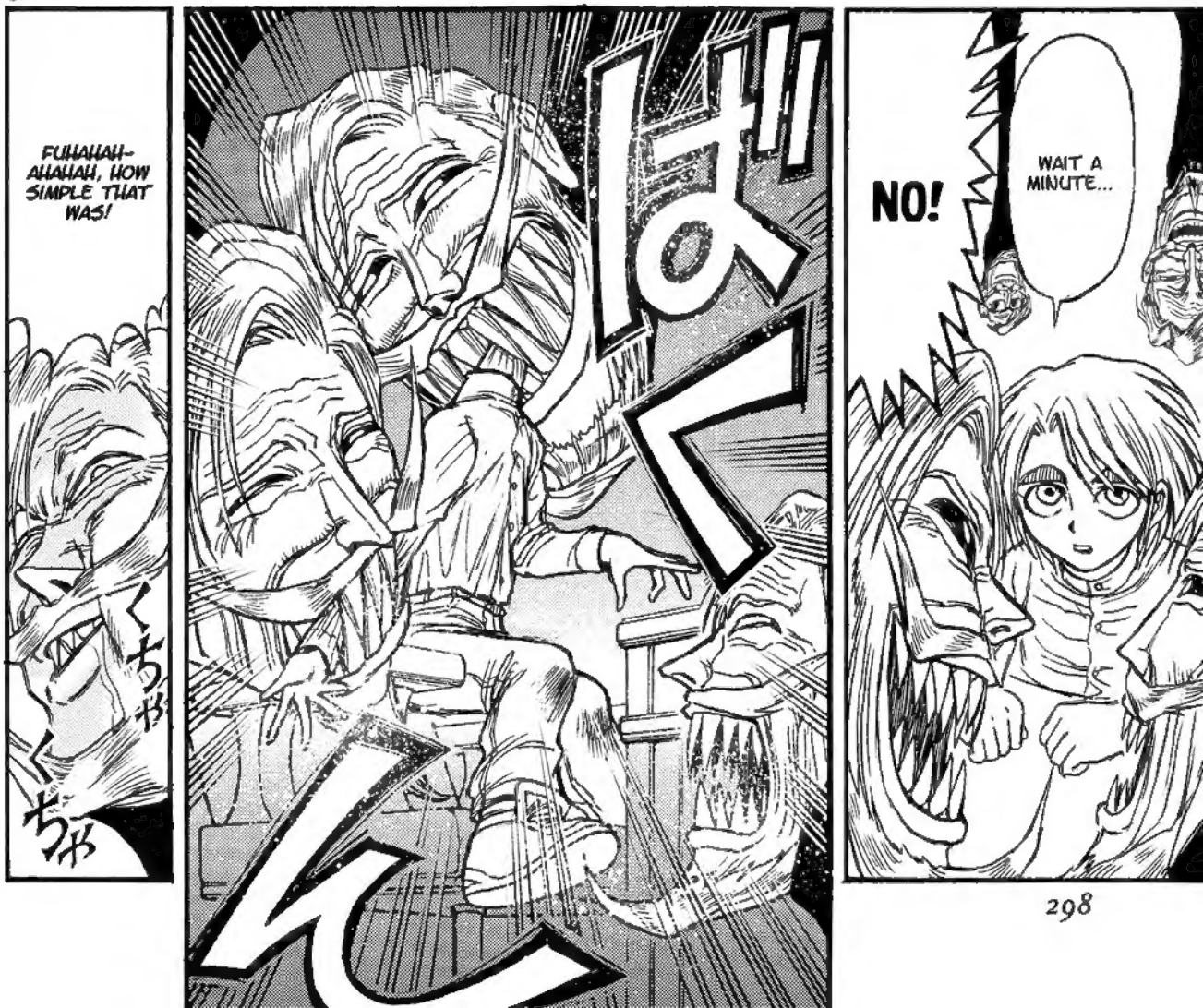
NO!
WAIT A MINUTE...
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FUHAHAH-AHAHAH, HOW SIMPLE THAT WAS!
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I'M NOT DONE TALKING TO YOU!
?!
NOW THIS ROOM IS MINE!
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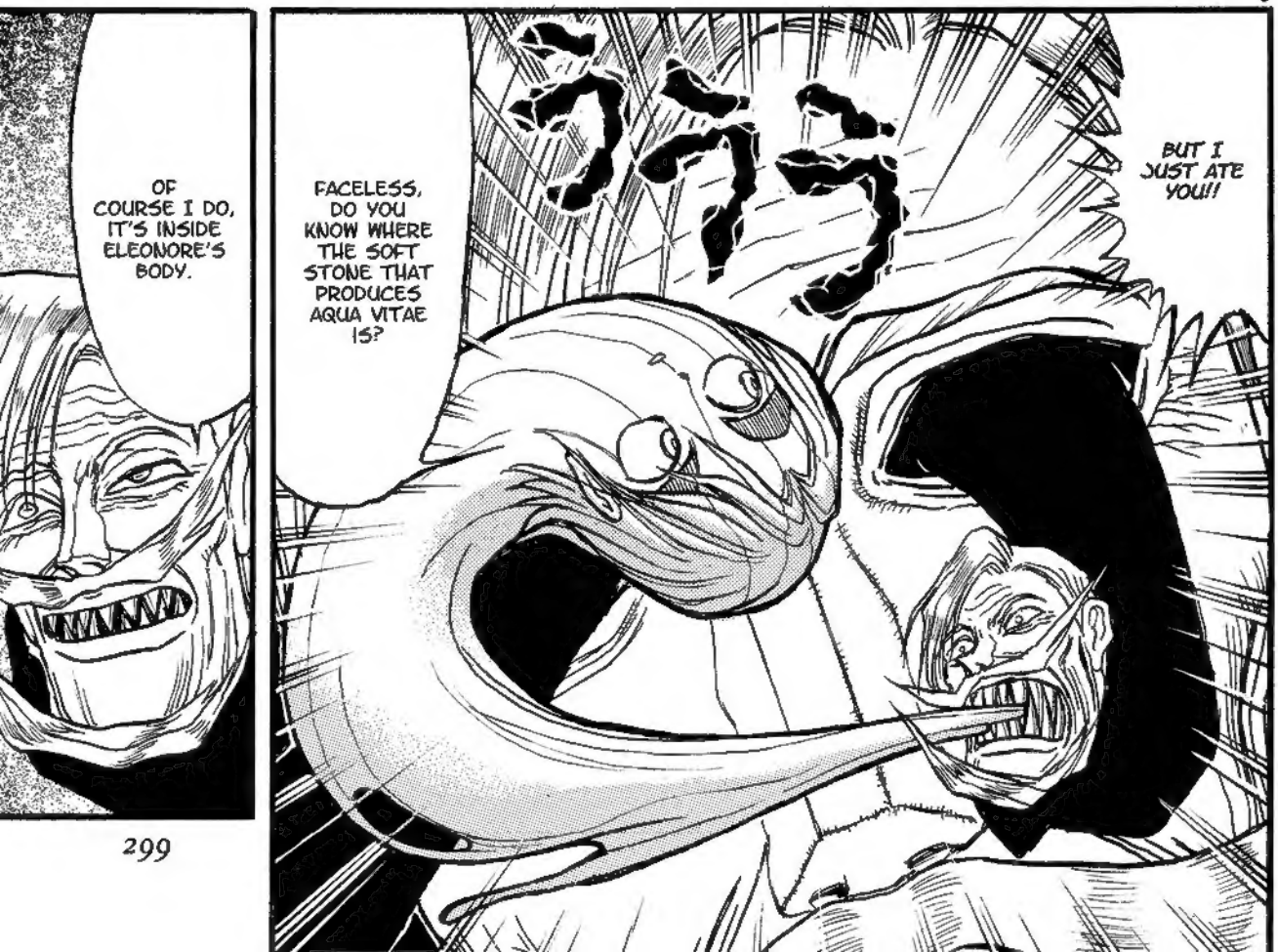
OF COURSE I DO, IT'S INSIDE ELEONORE'S BODY.
FACELESS, DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE SOFT STONE THAT PRODUCES AQUA VITAE IS?
BUT I JUST ATE YOU!!

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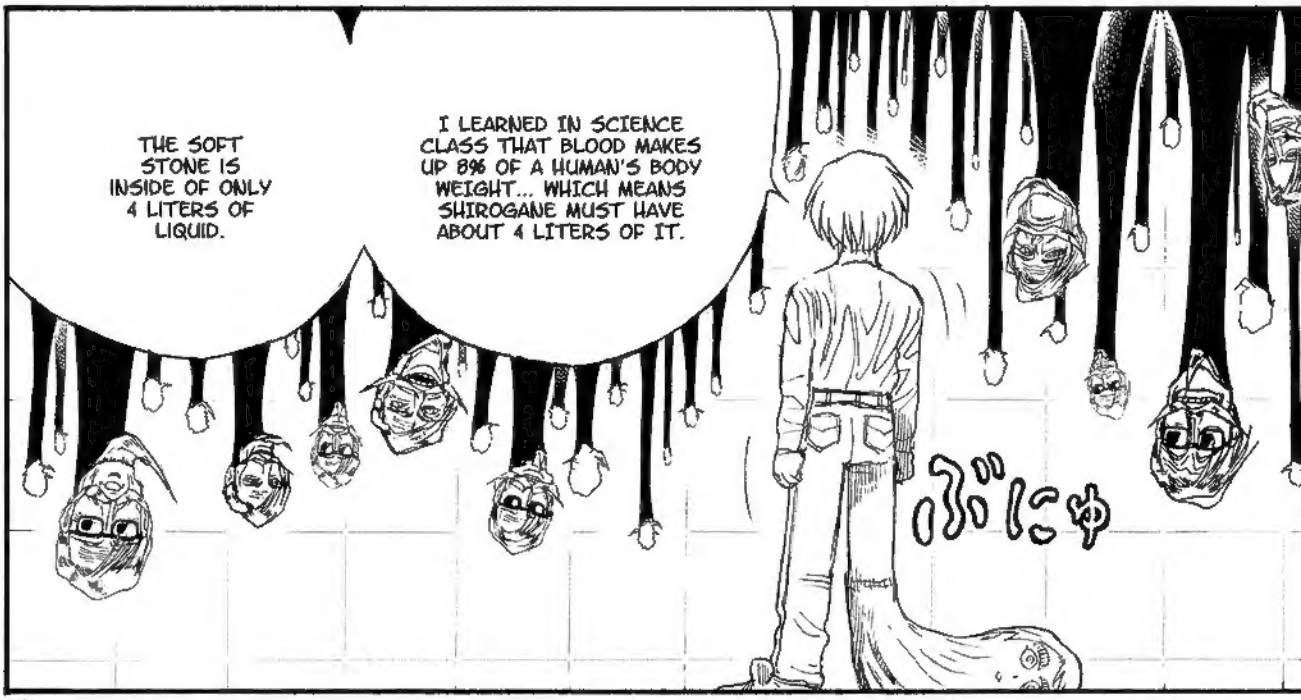
THEN... A STONE WITH THE ABILITY TO CONVERT 15 TONS OF WATER INTO AN ELIXIR...
...IS INSIDE SHIROGANE'S SLENDER BODY.


I LEARNED IN SCIENCE CLASS THAT BLOOD MAKES UP 8% OF A HUMAN'S BODY WEIGHT... WHICH MEANS SHIROGANE MUST HAVE ABOUT 4 LITERS OF IT.
THE SOFT STONE IS INSIDE OF ONLY 4 LITERS OF LIQUID.
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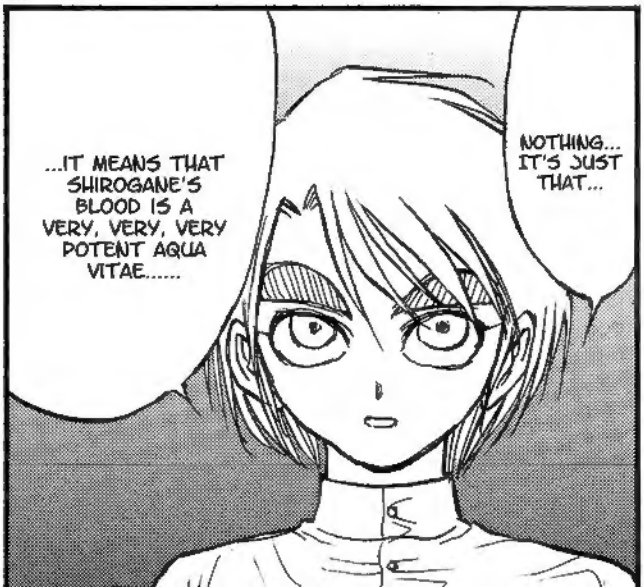
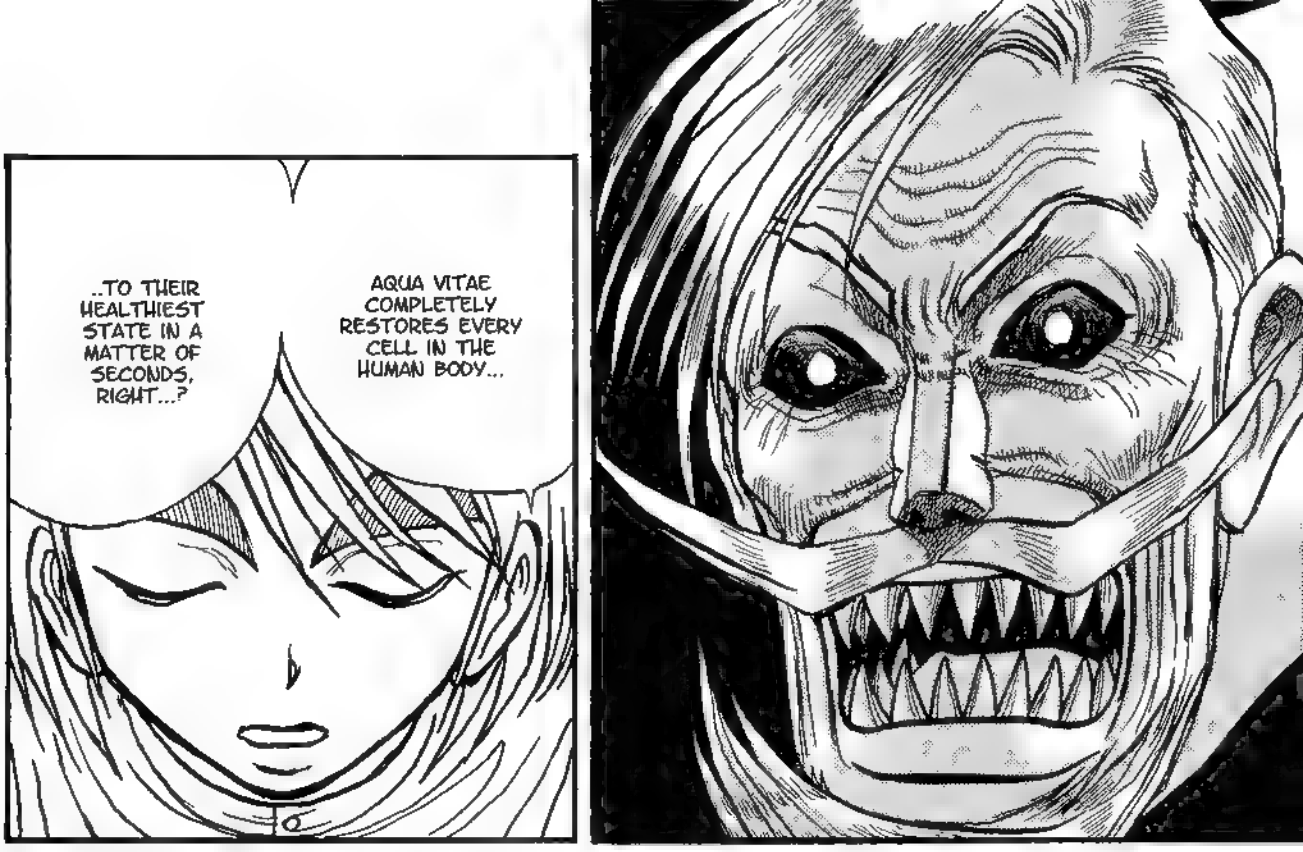
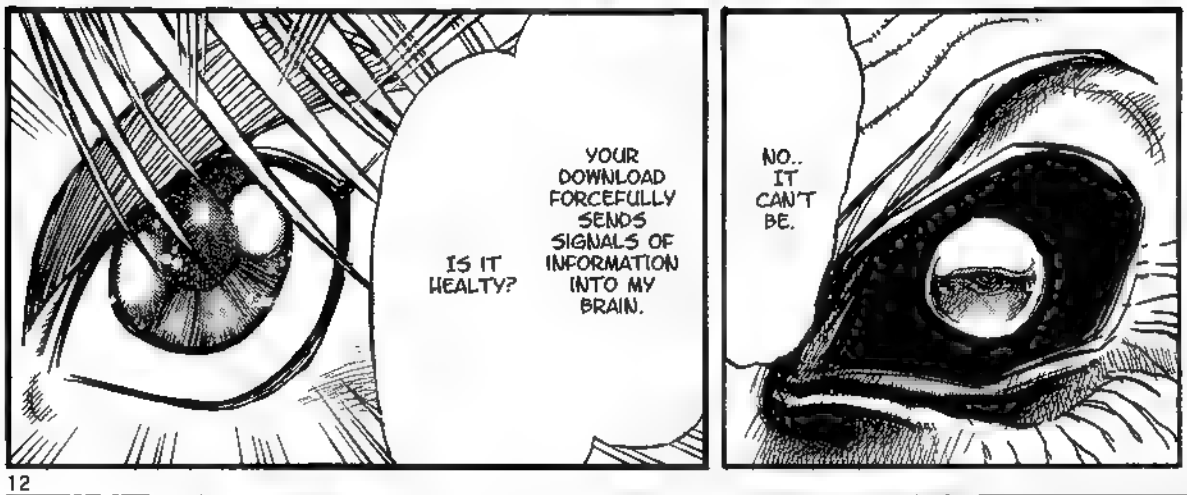

NOTHING... IT'S JUST THAT...
...IT MEANS THAT SHIROGANE'S BLOOD IS A VERY, VERY, VERY POTENT AQUA VITAE.....

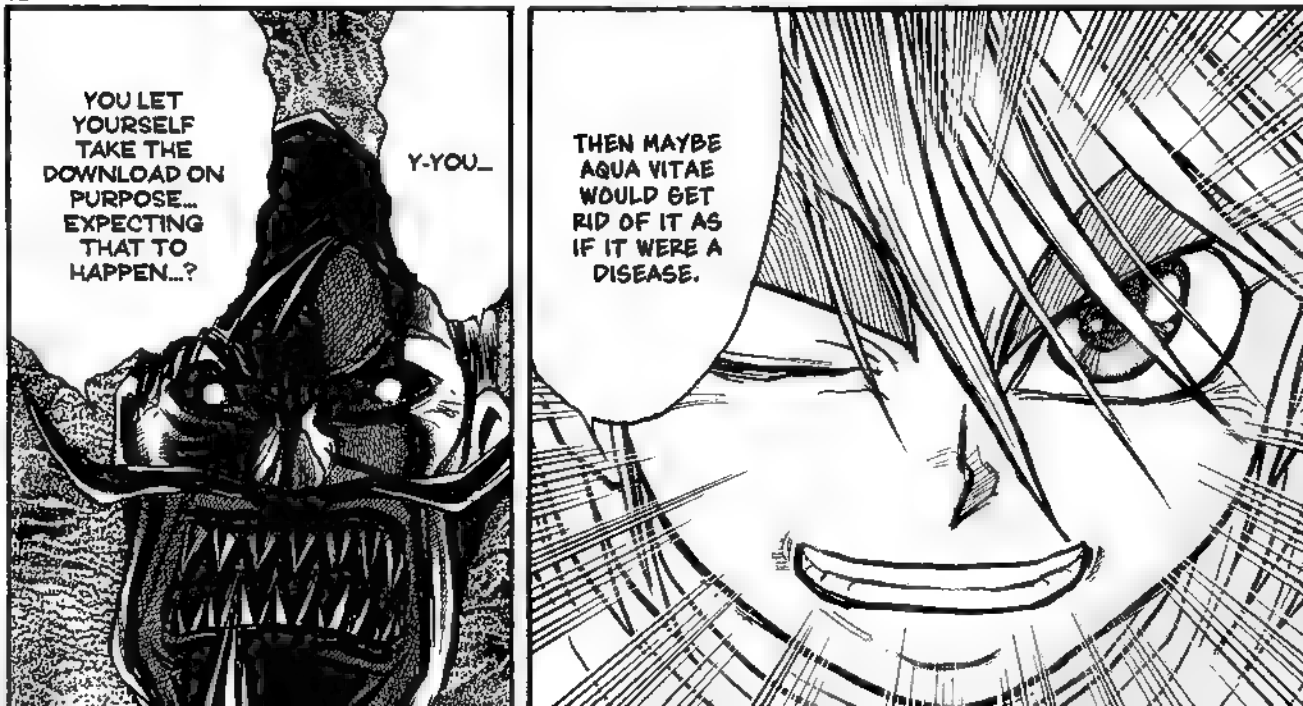
...WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

AND WHAT ABOUT IT?!

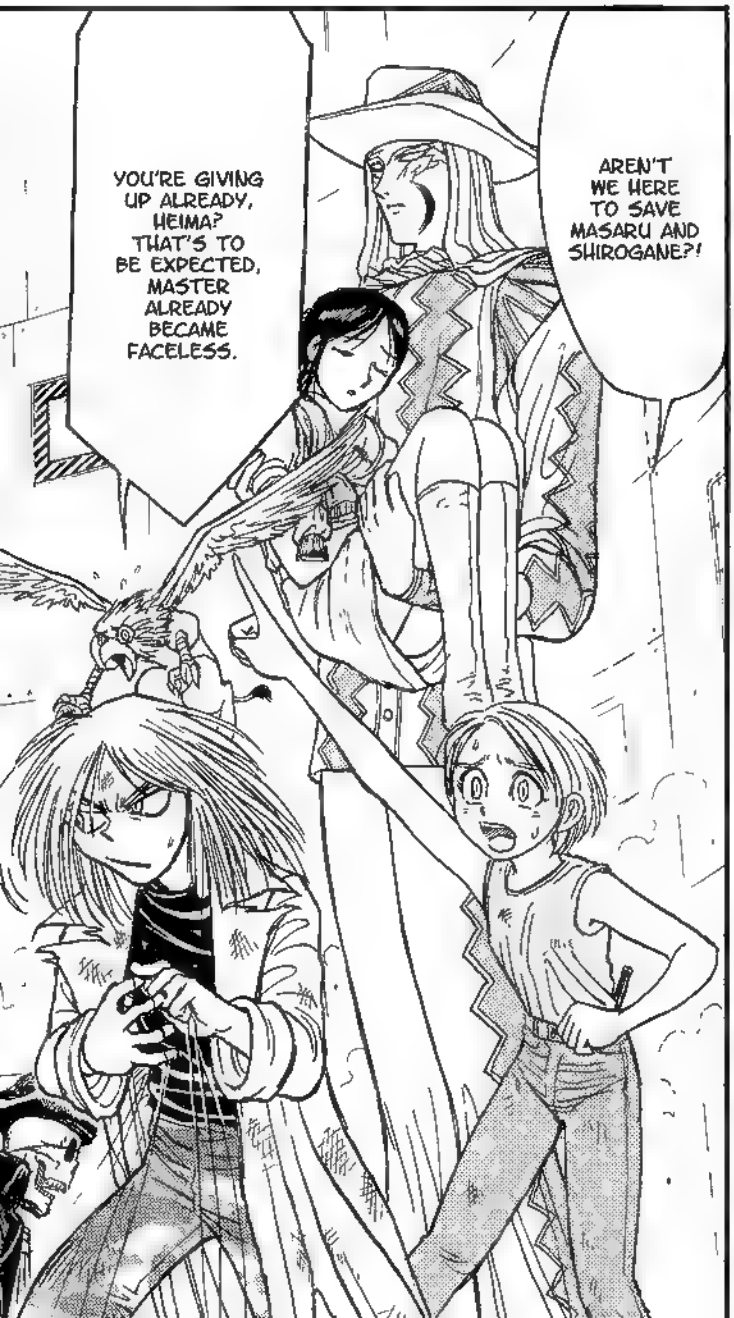
I DRANK IT.


..TO THEIR HEALTHIEST STATE IN A MATTER OF SECONDS, RIGHT...?
AQUA VITAE COMPLETELY RESTORES EVERY CELL IN THE HUMAN BODY...


IS IT HEALTY?
YOUR DOWNLOAD FORCEFULLY SENDS SIGNALS OF INFORMATION INTO MY BRAIN.
NO.. IT CAN'T BE.


YOU LET YOURSELF TAKE THE DOWNLOAD ON PURPOSE... EXPECTING THAT TO HAPPEN...?
Y-YOU...
THEN MAYBE AQUA VITAE WOULD GET RID OF IT AS IF IT WERE A DISEASE.

FACELESS, I...
...DRANK THE MOST POTENT AQUA VITAE IN THE WORLD!


AREN'T WE HERE TO SAVE MASARU AND SHIROGANE?!
YOU'RE GIVING UP ALREADY, HEIMA? THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED, MASTER ALREADY BECAME FACELESS.

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HOLD ON, HEIMA. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ESCAPING FOR?!

MASARU'S HEAD-BUTT AIN'T LIKE THAT.

THAT'S HOW... I KNOW IT.

AND HE GAVE YOU THAT TERRIBLE HEAD-BUTT...!

HUH?

HUH?! HUH?!

HE DIDN'T TURN INTO FACELESS.

IT MIGHT LOOK WEAK, BUT HIS HEAD IS DAMN TOUGH.

WE CLASHED OUR HEADS COUNTLESS TIMES BEFORE...

GET OUT OF MY HEAD!!
MASARU, YOU BASTARD!!

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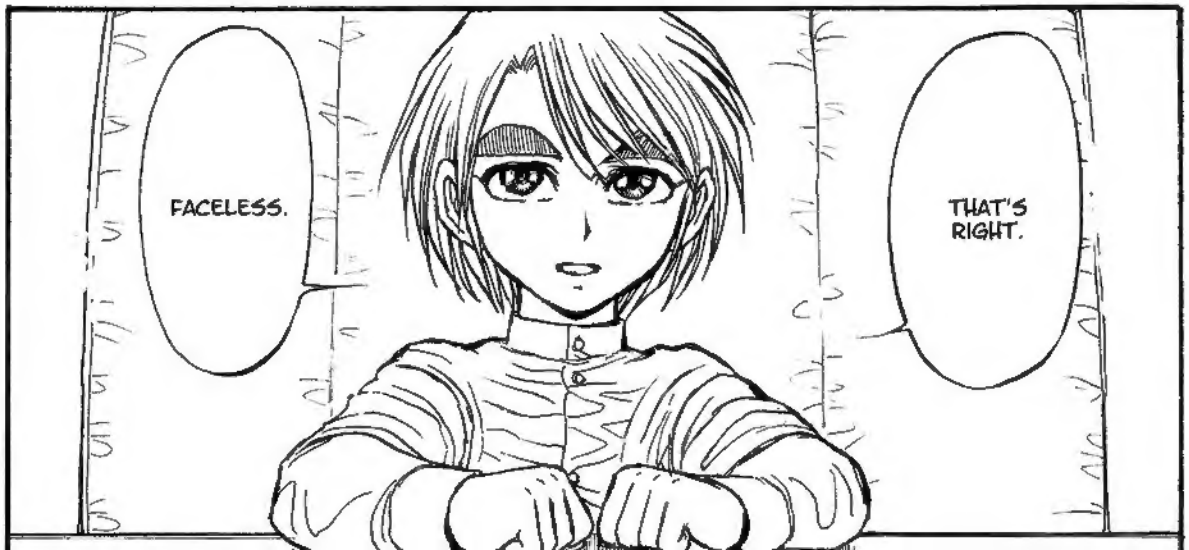
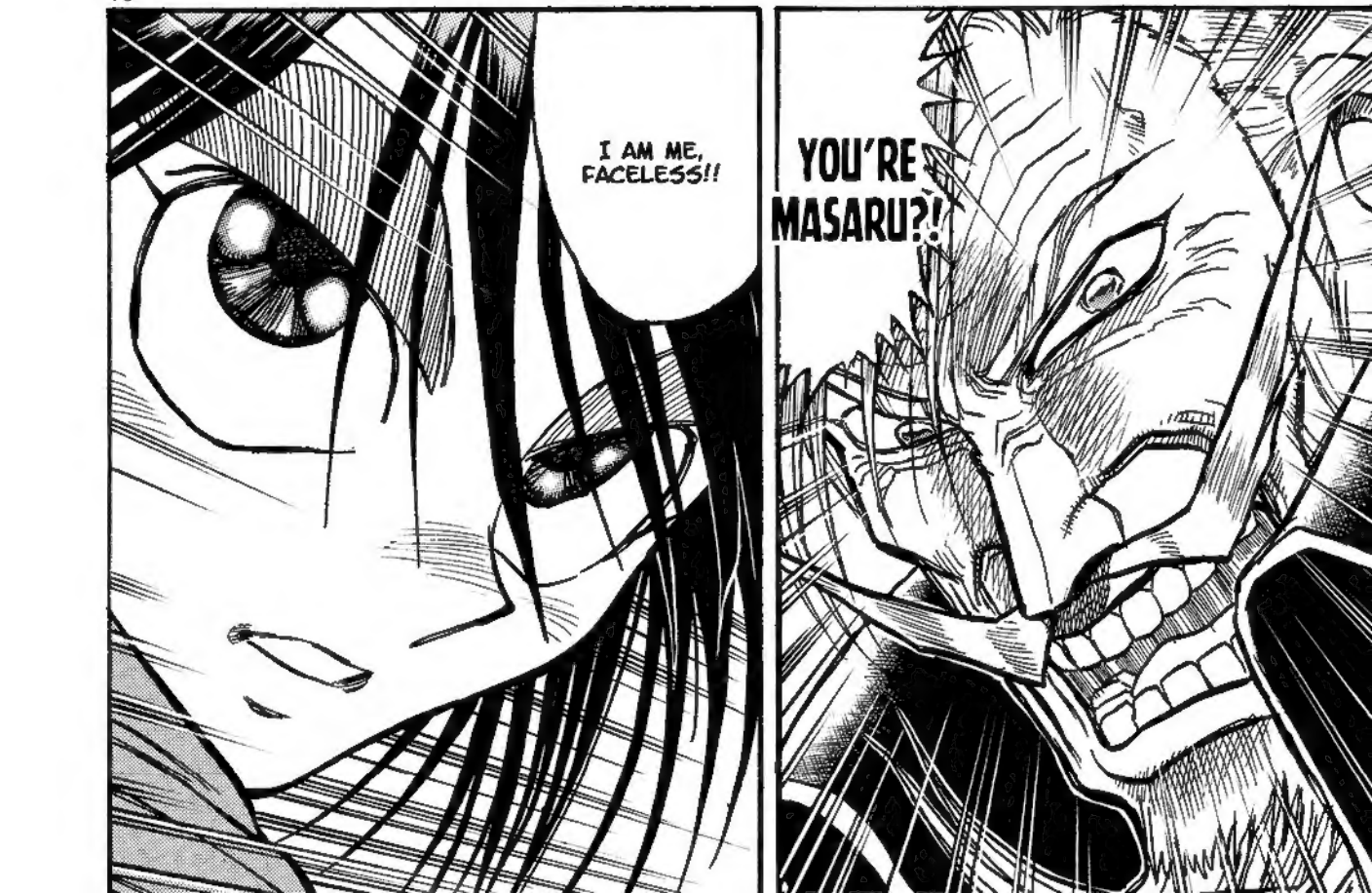
...BY SOMETHING LIKE... THAT...
THE DOWNLOAD WAS TAKEN OVER...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
ウウウ


FACELESS.
THAT'S RIGHT.

DAMN YOOOU!
Countdown in progress. Lift-off in 11 minutes.


I AM ME, FACELESS!!
YOU'RE MASARU?!